November, 2002 and were conducted according to well rehearsed and established procedures. A small quantity of mines still remain unaccounted for due to prolonged deployment, mines drifting due to heavy rains, rodents shifting the mines and growth of dense vegetation around the area. For such unrecovered mines, precautionary measures are taken, like blasting of mines by mechanized equipment and issuing precautionary advice to landowners before handing over the land back to the owners.

(b) to (d) De-mining operations have been completed and land in all areas, except those required for operational reasons, have been handed back to the owners.

IT policy of HAL

992. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. has a well formulated IT policy in place;

(b) whether this policy covers crucial and sensitive aspects of threat perceptions and safety measures access to source codes, disaster recovery etc.; and

(c) the other measures being planned to strengthen the IT infrastructure of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE) (a) and (b) The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has formulated a Information Technology (IT) plan. The plan takes into account different aspects concerning with safety and security of the system.

(c) HAL reviews its requirements and takes appropriate measures to strengthen the IT infrastructure.

Setting up of plastic cards unit by BEL

993. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Electronics Ltd. had tied up with a French company